

Claims

- [c1] Having described the invention, what is claimed is as follows:
1. A wash bucket screen for use in a water bucket having a bottom and walls or a single cylindrical or frustum wall, comprising:
a platform supported on a depending skirt sized to flexibly engage the water bucket wall above a bucket bottom, the platform having a plurality of holes therethrough allowing water to pass through to the bucket bottom.
 - [c2] 2. The wash bucket screen of claim 1 wherein the holes taper, respectively, from a hole top that readily collects water downward in diameter reduction to a small opening at a hole bottom effectively preventing water in the bucket below the screen from splashing back up through the platform holes.
 - [c3] 3. The wash bucket screen of claim 1 wherein the platform sides are adapted to extend to the bucket wall or walls providing an effective splash shield between the screen and the bucket wall.
 - [c4] 4. The wash bucket screen of claim 2 further comprising a perimeter flange extending outward from the sides sized to ride on a bucket wall when the screen is urged into the bucket.
 - [c5] 5. The wash bucket screen of claim 3 wherein the flange is near side distal ends.
 - [c6] 6. The wash bucket screen of claim 2 wherein the platform sides flex resiliently to adapt to the bucket wall or walls as the sides extend to the wall or walls.
 - [c7] 7. The wash bucket screen of claim 5 wherein the sides have vertical slits opening to the side distal ends allowing the sides to bend resiliently as the flange rides on the bucket wall.
 - [c8] 8. The wash bucket screen of claim 1 wherein the platform slants to assist run-off of debris from the platform.
 - [c9] 9. The wash bucket screen of claim 7 wherein the platform slants to a platform perimeter.
 - [c10] 10. The wash bucket screen of claim 7 wherein the platform includes channels

on the platform perimeter at lower perimeter portions receiving run-off and debris from the platform and routing it to the bucket bottom.

- [c11] 11.The wash bucket screen of claim 9 wherein the platform slants from its center to a lower perimeter.
- [c12] 12.The wash bucket screen of claim 9 wherein the platform slants from an upper perimeter portion to a lower perimeter portion.
- [c13] 13.The wash bucket screen of claim 1 wherein the platform further comprises a plurality of ridges.
- [c14] 14.The wash bucket screen of claim 12 wherein the ridges are disposed radially on the platform from a center to a platform perimeter.
- [c15] 15.A wash bucket screen for use in a water bucket having a bottom and walls or a single cylindrical or frustum wall, comprising:
a platform slanting to a perimeter lower portion,
a skirt depending from the slanting platform adapted to fit in said water bucket on the skirt above a bucket bottom, the platform having a plurality of holes therethrough allowing water to pass through to the bucket bottom wherein the skirt is adapted to extend to the bucket wall or walls and flexes resiliently to adapt to the bucket wall or walls as the skirt extends to the wall or walls providing an effective splash shield between the screen and the bucket wall, the skirt having vertical slits opening to the side distal ends allowing the sides to bend resiliently as the flange rides on the bucket wall, wherein the platform and skirt include channels on the platform perimeter at lower perimeter portions and extending along the skirt to a skirt distal end therein receiving run-off and debris from the platform and routing it to the bucket bottom.
- [c16] 16.The wash bucket screen of claim 15 wherein the platform further comprises a plurality of ridges disposed radially on the platform from a center to a platform perimeter.
- [c17] 17.A wash bucket screen for use in a water bucket having a bottom and walls or a single cylindrical or frustum wall, comprising:

a slanted platform supported on a depending skirt sized to flexibly engage the water bucket wall above the bucket bottom with channels on the platform perimeter at lower perimeter portions receiving run-off and debris from the platform and routing it to the bucket bottom.

[c18] 18. The wash bucket screen of claim 17 wherein the platform further comprises a plurality of ridges disposed radially on the platform from a center to a platform perimeter.

Patented May 1, 2002